

PRESIDENT REPORT

ACORN QLD INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

The past year has been both demanding and transformative for perioperative nursing in Queensland. Workforce shortages, recruitment challenges, and the increasing complexity of surgical care have tested services across the state. Yet, through resilience and innovation, perioperative nurses have continued to deliver safe, high-quality care.

ACORN QLD and other local, state, and national organisations are all working towards a common goal of strengthening perioperative nursing. Together with groups such as ACORN, SWAPNet, ACN, and hospital and health service partners, ACORN QLD has advanced education, quality, and safety, highlighting both challenges and opportunities for growth.

Despite changes in committee structure and leadership, we have maintained a strong foundation and remain focused on providing meaningful resources and opportunities for our members. I sincerely thank our past ACORN QLD president, Simone Ohlin, and past director, Justine Vost, for laying the groundwork for our organisation. I also acknowledge the dedication of our Committee members, whose efforts are building sustainable processes to shape the future of ACORN QLD, with special thanks to our secretary, Kathryn Herrick, and treasurer, Nicole Dunne, for their invaluable support in advancing our mission of excellence in education, advocacy, and professional development. We are always looking for new committee members to strengthen our team—particularly in the roles of Media Relations and ACORN QLD Director. If you are interested, please register your interest and join us in shaping the future of perioperative nursing in Queensland.

Over the past 12 months, ACORN QLD has delivered regional education events in Toowoomba, and Bundaberg, with thanks to our hospital liaisons and the commitment of our education team—Megan Nicholson, Kathy, and Michelle Matthews. We encourage members to get involved in their local perioperative communities by assisting in liaison roles. This year also saw strengthened sponsor partnerships to support regional events and the 2025 Conference, with special thanks to Trish Sinnamon, our Trade Lead. Our online presence has grown through the efforts of Michelle and Simone in media relations, supported by Marni Chislett. I also acknowledge the persistence and hard work required to organise an event as large as our annual conference at the QT Gold Coast. As 2025 Conference Lead, I could not have achieved this without Nicole, Trish, and the foundation laid by our previous lead, Ness Schenk.

Looking ahead, ACORN will host its biannual national conference in Brisbane next year, providing Queensland nurses with a rare in-state opportunity. ACORN QLD will adopt a biannual conference model, with the next major conference scheduled for 2027, while continuing to expand regional events. By strengthening recruitment, professional development, and workforce wellbeing—and working together with members, partners, and professional networks—perioperative nursing in Queensland will remain resilient, innovative, and committed to the highest standards of patient care. Into 2026, we will continue regional events, culminating in the 2027 conference. Finally, I extend my deepest thanks to all our members for their unwavering commitment to patient safety and maintaining the high standards that define our profession.

Warm regards,

Ree

Ann-Maree Layton
ACORN QLD President

SECRETARY REPORT

ACORN QLD INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

I am writing what is now my fourth consecutive Secretary Report and look back on the last four years of the growth and achievements made by ACORN Queensland. The past year has seen us strive towards our mission to *“engage and empower our members to advance and promote excellence in perioperative practice”*.

Our committee convened regularly throughout the year, fostering active dialogue about perioperative best practices, member engagement and organisational goals. An initial strategic planning day was held in November 2024 to not only induct our new committee members but also to assess, strategise and plan our activities and goals for the year. A second strategic meeting day was held in July this year with the aim of assessing our progress in meeting our organisational objectives. Together, we undertook an analysis of our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) which culminated in the update of our risk register.

A key focus of our organisation is to enhance the professional growth of our members with the delivery of regional education days. Toowoomba Hospital hosted the first of two such days in February. The program successfully delivered to 46 attendees a little bit of everything for everyone including fostering a positive environment, anaesthetic emergencies, a new perspective on shivering, advances in the treatment of melanoma, emergency robotic procedure and biofilm and care of our reusable medical devices (RMDs). Thanks must go to our fantastic speakers for the day. Gratitude is also given to our sponsor for the day, Ansell, and Irene Carter who along with Lindy Bukuya presented a session on surgical gloves – best practice.

A second regional education day was delivered at the Bundaberg Hospital in May. Many thanks must go to our local organiser, Julie Melhop who put together an amazing program for 31 attendees. Content included: theatre trivia, a personal account of scrub nurse to surgical assistant, case studies on retained surgical items, recycling and sustainability in the OR, and restoring sight. Thanks must go once again to our amazing speakers. We also received presentations from one of our sponsors, Hipac, with James Hungerford providing a session on a greener solution for our perioperative waste, and Robyn Home providing us with a practical session on patient positioning. Thank you must also go to our other trade sponsors present: Quest Surgical, Solventum and Molnlycke.

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Ann-Maree Layton (President)

Simone Ohlin (Past President)

Kathryn Herrick (Secretary)

Nicole Dunne (Treasurer)

Megan Nicholson (Education lead)

Michelle Matthews (Media lead)

Patricia Sinnamon (Trade lead)

Marni Chislett (Membership lead)

The names of committee members who have stepped down from the committee this year are:
Aine Coutinho, Vanessa Schenk and Justine Vost (ACORN QLD Director).

Sincere thanks must go to my fellow committee members. Together, we have been quietly working behind the scenes to advance perioperative patient care, support professional development and strengthen our perioperative nursing community. I look forward to building on these successes in the coming year.

Kind regards

KHerrick

Kathryn Herrick, Secretary 2023-2025

TREASURER REPORT

ACORN QLD INC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

It is a pleasure to present to you the treasurer's report for the 2024-2025 financial year.

This year has brought a new skill set for myself to learn as I have stepped in to become the treasurer. I am grateful for the chance to support the committee in an executive role and bring a fresh set of eyes to a higher level of involvement.

Over the past year, we have continued to operate as a not-for-profit organisation linked to our mission statement. To engage and empower our members to advance and promote excellence in perioperative practice through all professional standards.

Since our last AGM we have changed accountants to LINK Books Accounting service, where we have seen a significant improvement in our bookkeeping services and record management.

They currently provide us with general booking services, account balancing through Xero/HubDoc and provide us with monthly reports for our committee meetings to ensure we are financially sound in our decision-making and understand our current financial position.

Our financial position remains sustainable for a strong future. Financial overview:

Primary income is received from membership fees, event sponsorship, and other event-related income such as ticket sales.

Ongoing major expenses include: Xero fees, PO box, National storage, subscriptions such as Microsoft Office, Google, Domain, Canva, AVG, Link accountants, Insurances, Media, Capitation and secretariat/merchant fees (ACORN National).

We have engaged Edgewise Insurance Brokers again to renew our insurance policies. We have changed social media providers to Bleo Media for our digital market requirements as they better align with our cost requirements and company needs.

Currently, all of our financial accounts are held with ANZ. The executive committee is looking to transition to a new business service in a new bank. This will ensure we continue to receive the best service and financial advice to manage ACORN Qld funds and allow continued financial success and growth to reinvest into our members and our mission as an association.

We are engaging with an external auditor to ensure a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position in the form of financial statements. Once this is completed, we will release this via email to our members for review. As we are classed as a small not-for-profit entity, the association is not required to provide an auditor's report; however, as a committee, we believe this is an important part of financial transparency for our members.

I present the 2025 Financial Report for adoption by our members.

Nicole Dunne, Treasurer, 2025

Profit and Loss

Australian College Of Perioperative Nurses Queensland Incorporated For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024	2023	2022
Trading Income				
Conference - Sponsorship Income	52,413.63	24,781.76	-	-
Conference - Ticket Sales Income	20,318.18	-	-	-
Education Day - Sponsorship Income	5,181.80	545.45	-	-
Education Day - Ticket Sales Income	2,727.27	481.82	-	-
Interest Income	29.70	2,537.60	612.82	1,507.59
Memberships Income	48,011.67	62,136.36	56,861.44	80,402.01
Other Revenue	10.50	123.29	-	-
Prior Year Income Adjustment	-	7,030.48	-	-
Sponsorship Income	(750.00)	24,545.49	2,909.05	454.55
Transaction fee reimbursement	49.34	-	7.17	-
Total Trading Income	127,992.09	122,182.25	60,390.48	82,364.15
Gross Profit	127,992.09	122,182.25	60,390.48	82,364.15
Other Income				
Refunds	12,909.09	-	-	-
Total Other Income	12,909.09	-	-	-
Operating Expenses				
ACORN	-	23,618.64	-	-
ACORN Capitation Fees	17,668.10	-	-	-
ACORN Secretariat and Merchant Fees	1,797.67	4,517.94	31,813.73	27,202.23
Advertising Digital / Socials	7,364.96	24,225.96	8,937.65	-
Bank Fees	217.42	528.40	383.99	384.00
Committee Event Accommodation	23,724.86	-	-	-
Committee Travel - National	1,698.60	1,800.00	2,937.84	18.24
Conference Expenses - Catering & Hospitality	368.34	502.20	2,433.93	543.81
Conference Expenses - Gifts Prizes and Member Bags	11,533.39	3,270.35	-	-
Conference Expenses - Key note speaker and entertainment	18,992.71	1,571.81	-	-
Conference Expenses - Printing & Stationery	543.32	3,909.61	-	-
Conference Expenses - Tech & Audio Visual	3,960.00	4,890.00	-	-
Conference Expenses - Travel & Parking	-	4.55	-	4,624.87
Conference Expenses - Venue Hire	70,635.91	17,702.64	227.27	-
Consulting & Accounting	2,312.50	3,398.00	1,684.00	14,644.00
Education Day - Catering	1,456.02	209.68	-	-
General Expenses	-	304.60	5,172.11	402.15
Insurance	3,561.86	2,470.44	2,383.20	2,349.89
Interest Expense	-	0.68	-	-
Office Expenses / printing and stationary	339.86	-	311.77	243.64
Office Of Fair Trade Annual Return	60.05	-	-	-
Printing & Stationery	-	(21.78)	-	96.94
Rent - Postal Box	164.00	158.18	-	-

	2025	2024	2023	2022
Rent - Storage	1,525.08	924.57	1,205.46	1,063.64
Scholarships & Grants Given	2,000.00	-	-	1,818.18
Software Subscriptions	5,573.48	4,476.00	4,316.38	4,472.00
Stripe Fees	-	43.46	8.10	-
Stripe Fees (no GST)	60.11	83.22	-	-
Telephone & Internet	-	-	136.36	136.36
Uniforms	-	767.54	416.09	-
Total Operating Expenses	175,558.24	99,356.69	62,367.88	57,999.95
Net Profit	(34,657.06)	22,825.56	(1,977.40)	24,364.20

Balance Sheet

Australian College Of Perioperative Nurses Queensland Incorporated As at 30 June 2025

	30 JUNE 2025	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023	30 JUNE 2022
Assets				
Bank				
ACORN Qld Inc Cheque 1 - ANZ 4593	11,162.27	28,128.80	1,113.17	3,682.57
Cash Management Account - ANZ 4585	368,662.68	153,796.17	83,484.76	83,476.41
Cheque account no.2 - ANZ 4606	76,938.24	55,475.15	138,297.50	142,309.67
Total Bank	456,763.19	237,400.12	222,895.43	229,468.65
Current Assets				
Accounts Receivable	4,000.00	5,750.00	1,300.00	550.00
ANZ Term Deposit	204,620.75	204,620.75	202,094.56	201,490.09
Total Current Assets	208,620.75	210,370.75	203,394.56	202,040.09
Fixed Assets				
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	(1,198.00)	(1,198.00)	(1,198.00)	(1,198.00)
Office Equipment	1,198.00	1,198.00	1,198.00	1,198.00
Total Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-
Total Assets	665,383.94	447,770.87	426,289.99	431,508.74
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	52,243.30	10,214.85	6,669.69	6,878.15
GST	68.43	3,923.57	59.93	(28.19)
PNAQ Funds Contributed	-	-	7,030.48	7,030.48
Rounding	-	(0.01)	(0.01)	-
Term Deposit - SC 0026	214,606.81	-	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	266,918.54	14,138.41	13,760.09	13,880.44
Non-current Liabilities				
Advance Payments	-	-	-	1,210.00
ATO Payment Liability	-	510.00	2,233.00	4,144.00
Total Non-current Liabilities	-	510.00	2,233.00	5,354.00
Total Liabilities	266,918.54	14,648.41	15,993.09	19,234.44
Net Assets	398,465.40	433,122.46	410,296.90	412,274.30
Equity				
Current Year Earnings	(34,657.06)	22,825.56	(1,977.40)	24,364.20
Retained Earnings	433,127.46	410,301.90	412,279.30	387,915.10
Share Capital	(5.00)	(5.00)	(5.00)	(5.00)
Total Equity	398,465.40	433,122.46	410,296.90	412,274.30